DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Increase in Price of Tea

4445. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of tea have been increasing continously;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to check the rising trend in prices of tea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) While average auction prices of teas at Indian auctions have increased by 8.66% during January-July, 1996 as compared to the corresponding period of 1995, retail prices of consumer preference medium variety teas have not registered increase during the first 6/7 months of the current year.

(b) and (c). Marginal recovery in auction prices of tea during the current year as compared to depressed level of prices during 1994 and 1995 is on account of better demand. No special steps are envisaged to check the prices as increase in the prices is not very high. Tea Board, however, monitoring tea prices both at auction and retail level on a continuing basis.

[English]

Industrial Park in Assam

4446. SHRI KESHAV MAHANTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any industrial park in the States with particular reference to Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government of Assam has any share in that industrial park; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Upto now 18 Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIP) have been approved to be set up in Amingaon near Guwahati (Assam), Dhandari Kalan (Punjab), Ambarnath (Maharashtra), Kakkanad (Kerala), Baddi (H.P.), Sitapura (Rajasthan), Hoodi (Karnataka), Kundli (Haryana), Surajpur (U.P.), Gammidipoondi (Tamil Nadu), Pashamylaram (Andhra Pradesh), Savli (Gujarat), Hazipur (Bihar), Durgapur (West Bengal), Byrnihat (Meghalaya), Siya (Madhya Pradesh), Bhubaneswar (Orissa) and Samba (J& K).

(c) and (d). As per the project proposal of the Government of Assam, the EPIP is to be financed as under:-

Govt. of India Grant	Rs. 10.00 crores
Government of Assam/ Assam Industrial Development Corporation.	Rs. 4.62 crores

Examination for Clerks in Banking Service

4447. DR. ARVIND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether both the Banking Services Recruitment Boards of Delhi and Lucknow have fixed the same date of examination, i.e., December 16, 1996 for the posts of Clerks, etc.;

(b) whether the Government are aware that most of the candidates are going to appear in both examinations;

(c) if so, the jurisdiction for fixing the same date for the examination by both the Boards;

(d) whether the Government propose to change the date of one of the Boards to protect the interest of the candidates who desire to avail of the chances in both the Boards; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. However, common date of examination is 15.12.1996 and not 16.12.1996.

(b) to (e). The Government had, in November, 1990, inter alia, advised the Banking Service Recruitment Boards (BSRBs) that as far as possible, the examinations by the BSRBs for various cadres may be conducted on common dates.

The Government have, however, decided to re-examine the matter. Pending re-examination, the BSRBs have been advised to hold the clerical examinations scheduled to be held on 15.12.1996 on different dates.

[Translation]

Hard Coke Oven and Plants

4448. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minster of COAL be pleased to state: